



GEORGIA LAND SURVEYOR

SUMMER 2021

ANNUAL MEETING & SUMMER CONVENTION INFORMATION ENCLOSED!

General Info, Agenda & Registration Forms | 4





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NEWSLETTER

The Georgia Land Surveyor is a publication of the Surveying and Mapping Society of Georgia and published six times a year, in the off number months. The articles are not necessarily the position of the society. Articles may be reprinted with due credit.

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**REGISTER BY JULY 5TH TO GET THE
\$50 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!**

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with check, or register online
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Cover Photo: Total station on Jekyll Island, GA.
Photo credit: Stephen Cain, Shupe Surveying Company, P.C.



ANNUAL MEETING & SUMMER CONVENTION GENERAL INFORMATION

MAKE PLANS NOW!

The SAMSOG Annual Meeting and Summer Convention will be held Thursday through Saturday, July 15th – 27th, 2021, at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel, 371 Riverview Drive, Jekyll Island, Georgia 31527. The program includes Benefits of ASCE, GDOT Surveying and Geomatics, UAV LiDAR versus Field Run Topo and plenty of sun and fun for everyone! On behalf of the entire Society, Phillip Brown, SAMSOG President, Grant Shepherd, Vice President & Education Chairman, and Teeple Hill, Annual Meeting Committee Chairman; Welcome to the 2021 Surveying Convention of Georgia!

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The **Jekyll Island Club Hotel** will host the Surveying Convention of Georgia. A block of rooms has been reserved for SAMSOG attendees at the rate of \$219 + \$20 resort per day + tax. This rate includes island shuttle transportation, in room bottled water and coffee, wireless internet, self-parking, and beach chairs/umbrellas/towels at the Ocean Club. Guests have 3 options to make a reservation: (1) call the hotel at 1-800-535-9547, prompt to the reservations department and give the group name **SAMSOG Annual Conference 2021** or group number **#16010487**. Please make sure you are using the group name and receiving the group rate. (2) Email the reservations department at reservations@jekyllclub.com and give the group name or number and all pertinent information. (3) Go to <http://www.jekyllclub.com/group-reservations/> and complete the submission form; **a Jekyll Island Club reservationist will contact you with a confirmation number and to get a guarantee.** Check in time is 4:00 PM and check out time is 11:00 AM. **These special rates are available thru June 21st only. Make your reservations NOW to insure availability!**



REGISTRATION

Registration is required to attend the events planned and seminars. Please complete the Meeting Registration Form and mail if paying by check or register on-line at www.samsog.org if using a VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. **Registrations must be received by Monday, July 5, 2021** to receive the \$50 EARLY BIRD discount (discount is reflected on the registration form. Late and/or on-site registrations will be accepted after this date as space allows. All attendees must check in upon arrival and are requested to wear nametags at all times during

the meeting. SAMSOG makes every effort to have adequate program material available at the meeting; however, late registrants and/or on-site registrants may not have materials available at the meetings, in which case such materials can be shipped following the meeting, upon request. **Payments may be made by check or on-line with an AMX, Visa, Discover or MasterCard.** Registration packets will be available for pickup at the registration desk which will be in the Hotel Lobby from 7:00 AM – 11:30 AM Thursday, July 15th and 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM Friday, July 16th. Admission to events is by ticket only. To attend the ticketed events and be eligible for prize drawings, you must be registered for the convention. Member employees can register at the member rate. **Members, please complete the registration form or register on-line by July 5th.**

21st Annual Ski Bashinski GOLF Outing
Jekyll Island Golf Club – Thursday, July 17th
Sponsored by Allen Precision Equipment and Leica Geosystems



The Golf outing will tee off Thursday, July 17th at 1:36 PM at Jekyll Island Golf Club. Each course is a masterpiece and includes pristine lakes, marshes, and forests. There are very few man-made obstructions here. But you will have to navigate the island's alligators, osprey, and deer. The cost of this event is \$75.00 which includes range balls, golf cart, green fees, beverage cart and lunch. All those participating must complete the golf registration form and return no later than July 12th as tee times are limited. If you have a foursome you would like to play with, please list the four names

on the golf registration form. Hotel shuttle is available to transport golfers to the course. For more information on Jekyll Island Golf Club, visit www.jekyllisland.com

Jekyll Island is State Park therefore a \$8 park entry fee is charged each time you enter the park after 24 hours.

CONVENTION ATTIRE

The SAMSOG Annual Meeting and Summer Convention is designed for relaxing, socializing, shopping, and education. Comfortable, casual dress is encouraged during the day.

- Dress for the Thursday night's Welcome Dinner & Exhibits is resort casual.
- Dress for Friday's Auxiliary Lunch and Program is resort casual.
- Dress for the Saturday night Dinner and Awards Banquet is business casual attire (coat & tie optional).

AUXILIARY & COMPANION PROGRAM

Auxiliary events are open to everyone — no membership or conference registration required; see the meeting registration form to purchase individual tickets to events. Thursday and Saturday are an open days to browse unique gifts or hand-made artisan collections at Pier Road Shops in the Historic District on the Jekyll Island Club Hotel grounds. For more shopping take a short walk, bike ride, or hotel shuttle to the shops at Beach Village and stop at the Jekyll Club Hotel Ocean Club for a stroll on the beach, dip in the pool, or lunch Oceanside. If you prefer, Georgia's only rehabilitation center for endangered sea turtles is walking distance from the hotel as well as paddle board, kayak, and bike rentals.

Thursday evening beginning at 7 PM, join us for the Low Country Boil dinner, dancing to the Wharfratz band, browsing exhibits, and corn hole in the Morgan Center. It our convention kickoff event and fun for all ages.

Friday morning the 16th Annual Auxiliary Program and Luncheon will begin at 10:15 AM with a guided trolley tour; the perfect way to experience the Jekyll Island Club National Historic Landmark. This tour of the 240-acre historic district includes entry into Indian Mound Cottage and admission into the Mosaic Gallery and Faith Chapel at your leisure. Following the tour, lunch will be served in the Grand Dining Room – Riverview Lounge.

Spouses, Guests, Companions, and children are encouraged to join us for this learning experience. The final event of the convention will be the Awards Banquet (business casual attire) including a wonderful meal and socializing with other surveyors and families. The event will conclude with our annual NOT-SO-SILENT auction to raise money for SAMPAC.

REMINDER

*Please bring items for the “**Not-so-Silent Auction**” to the Saturday evening Banquet. Items already donated include a 2-night stay at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel.*

Proceeds benefit SAMPAC

2021 ANNUAL MEETING & SUMMER CONVENTION AGENDA

Thursday, July 15, 2021

7:00 am – 4:30 pm	Check-in/Registration & Continental Breakfast/Exhibits <i>Pulitzer - Hotel Main Lobby</i>
7:45 am – 8:00 am	Welcome and Introductions – Morgan Center
8:00 am – 10:00 am	Benefits of ASCE 38-02 (2 PDH) –Morgan Center Presented by Aidan Deegan, PLS and Tony DiMarino, PLS
10:00 am – 10:30am	Break & Exhibits – Morgan Center
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Construction Layout Practices & Principals: A Surveyor's Role (2.0 PDH) Presented by Grant Shepherd & Associates, Inc. <i>Morgan Center</i>
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch on your own
12:30 am – 1:30 pm	Golfer's Lunch sponsored by Allen Precision Equipment & Leica
1:30 pm - Tee off	21st Annual Ski Bashinski Golf Outing at the Jekyll Island Golf Club (Transportation provided by Hotel)
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Low Country Boil featuring the Wharfratz Band & Cornhole – Morgan Center

Friday, July 16, 2021

7:00 am – 11:00 am	Check-in/Registration & Continental Breakfast/Exhibits <i>Morgan Center Foyer</i>
7:45 am – 8:30 am	Welcome and Introductions – Morgan Center
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Ethics in Surveying (1.5 PDH) – Morgan Center Presented by Matt Wilson, PLS, Kennesaw State University
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Break & Exhibits – Morgan Center
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Auxiliary Lunch – Riverview Lounge and Program TBA
10:30 am – noon	GDOT Surveying & Geomatics (1.5 PDH) – Morgan Center Presented by Roger Purcell, Ph D., PLS, PE & Usman Ibrahim, Master's Student
noon –1:30 pm	Surveyor's Lunch – Grand Dining Room
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	University of North Georgia (1.5 PDH) Presented by Dr. Jacob M. Bateman McDonald & Doug R. Sherrill, PLS
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Break & Exhibits – Morgan Center
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Chris Herrin, Video Producer – Morgan Center
	Dinner on your own

Saturday, July 17, 2021

7:30 am – 9:00 am	SAMSOG Past President's Breakfast - <i>Invitation Only</i> – Riverview Lounge
9:00 am – 10:30 am	UAV LiDAR versus Field Run Topography (1.5 PDH) – Morgan Center Presented by Lonnie Sears, PLS
11:00 am – 12:30 pm	UAV LiDAR versus Field Run Topography, continued (1.5 PDH) <i>Morgan Center</i>
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch on your own (exhibits close)
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	SAMSOG Board & General Membership Meeting (2 PDH) – Morgan Center
6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Cocktail Social sponsored by eGPS Solutions – Morgan Center
6:30 pm – until	SAMSOG Awards Banquet/ Installation of Officers/Not-so-Silent Auction <i>Morgan Center</i>

Sunday, July 18, 2021

Check out by noon & have a safe journey home!

Registration Form

21st Annual Ski Bashinski Golf Tournament Thursday, July 15th, 2021
12:30 p.m. Lunch First Tee off at 1:36 p.m.



SAMSOG 2021 Annual Meeting & Summer Conference Jekyll Island Golf Club 322 Captain Wylly Road Jekyll Island, Georgia jekyllisland.com/activities

PLEASE COMPLETE PLAYER INFORMATION AND RETURN:

Name: _____
Company: _____
Phone Number: _____ Email: _____
Approximate Handicap: _____

If you wish to play with someone else (up to 3 people) please list their name(s) below. Please be sure the other person(s) includes you on their form as well. Every attempt will be made to accommodate your requests however, if pairings necessitate, we reserve the right to make foursomes. You do not have to have a team to participate! Singles, Twosome, or Threesomes are welcome!

I would like to play with the following individuals if possible:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Registration to play: \$75 per player (includes lunch, range balls, and cart)
Mulligans: \$10 each - limit two per player (Proceeds to benefit SAMPAC)
Can be used anywhere on the course from tee to green
Tee Blasters: \$20 each - limit one per player (Proceeds to benefit SAMPAC)
A Tee Blaster entitles the individual to tee off on one hole from the Red tees – only the player that purchased the Tee Blaster may tee off from the Red tees (not the entire team).

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please return Golf Registration Form with Meeting Registration Form.
Golf and Registration Fees may be paid in one payment.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SAMSOG and mail to: P. O. Box 113, LaGrange, GA. 30241
OR pay by Credit Card and call Ginger Walker at 770-947-1767.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE TO PLAY IS: Monday, July 12, 2021, 5:00 P.M. If you have not registered by that date and still wish to play, please call Ginger Jones directly at 770-947-1767.

Cancellations accepted up to July 12, 2021, 5:00pm, otherwise no refunds. We play in all weather conditions except lightning. Yes, there will be a beverage cart.

SURVEYING AND MAPPING SOCIETY OF GEORGIA
 2021 Annual Meeting and Summer Convention
 July 15 - 17, 2021
 Jekyll Island Club Hotel, Jekyll Island, Georgia



MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Person Attending _____ Badge Name _____

Name(s) spouse/guest _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

BOARD AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ATTENDANCE IS NO CHARGE

CHECK THE OPTION THAT APPLIES TO YOU BASED ON YOUR SAMSOG MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER

- ☐ **OPTION 1 - 3 Day Registration** **\$375.00**
 Includes admittance for one person to THURSDAY Seminars, Exhibits, Welcome Reception;
 FRIDAY Seminars and Surveyors Lunch; SATURDAY Seminars, Board & General Membership Meeting and Banquet.
ONLY \$30 PER PDH
- ☐ **OPTION 2 - 2 Day Registration Thursday & Friday** **\$275.00**
 Includes admittance for one person to THURSDAY Seminars, Exhibits, Welcome Reception;
 FRIDAY Seminars and Surveyors Lunch.
- ☐ **OPTION 3 - 2 Day Registration Friday & Saturday** **\$300.00**
 Includes admittance for one person to THURSDAY Welcome Reception, FRIDAY
 Seminars and Surveyors Lunch, SATURDAY Seminars, Board & General Membership Meeting and Banquet.
- ☐ **OPTION 4 - Thursday / Friday / Saturday Seminar** **\$175.00**
 Includes admittance to Thursday **OR** Friday **OR** Saturday Seminar (Friday lunch included. **PLEASE CIRCLE ONE DAY ONLY.**
- ☐ **Spouse / Companion Package + Auxiliary Program and Luncheon** **\$150.00**
 Includes admittance to Friday's Ladies Program and Luncheon and ALL other meals and banquet.

(Member employees can attend any function at the member rate. Spouse / Companion rates do not apply to a second employee from a company.)

NON MEMBER

- ☐ **OPTION 1 - 3 Day Registration** **\$575.00**
 Includes admittance for one person to THURSDAY Seminars, Exhibits, Welcome Reception;
 FRIDAY Seminars and Surveyors Lunch; SATURDAY Seminars, Board & General Membership Meeting and Banquet.
- ☐ **OPTION 2 - 2 Day Registration Thursday & Friday** **\$475.00**
 Includes admittance for one person to THURSDAY Seminars, Exhibits, Welcome Reception;
 FRIDAY Seminars and Surveyors Lunch.
- ☐ **OPTION 3 - 2 Day Registration Friday & Saturday** **\$500.00**
 Includes, admittance for one person to THURSDAY Welcome Reception, FRIDAY
 Seminars and Surveyors Lunch; SATURDAY Board & General Membership Meeting and Banquet.
- ☐ **OPTION 4 - Thursday / Friday / Saturday Seminar** **\$275.00**
 Includes admittance to Thursday **OR** Friday **OR** Saturday Seminars (Friday lunch Included) **PLEASE CIRCLE ONE DAY ONLY.**
- ☐ **Spouse / Companion Package + Auxiliary Program and Luncheon** **\$150.00**
 Includes admittance to Friday's Ladies Program and Luncheon and ALL other meals and banquet.

ADDITIONAL TICKETS

Tickets for the functions below are included in the full registration fee and/or the spouse registration fee Seminar Package. Additional tickets for those wishing to attend these functions but not holding one of the above registrations should be purchased separately:

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------|
| ☐ Golf Thursday, 7/15/2021 (please complete Golf form) | _____ tickets at \$75.00 each | \$ _____ |
| ☐ Welcome Reception Thursday, 7/15/2021 | _____ tickets at \$40.00 each | \$ _____ |
| ☐ Surveyors Lunch Friday, 7/16/2021 | _____ tickets at \$30.00 each | \$ _____ |
| ☐ Auxiliary Lunch & Program Friday, 7/16/2021 | _____ tickets at \$25.00 each | \$ _____ |
| ☐ Banquet Saturday, 7/17/2021 | _____ tickets at \$60.00 each | \$ _____ |
| ☐ Children 12 & under Saturday banquet, 7/17/2021 | _____ tickets at \$25.00 each | \$ _____ |

TOTAL FROM ABOVE: \$

☐ **Payment by check**

Check number: _____

Please forward check and completed form for total amount to:

**SAMSOG
P.O. Box 1113
LaGrange, GA 30241**

☐ **Payment by**

VISA / MASTERCARD / AMX / DISCOVER

*Please call Ginger Jones at
770-947-1767*

For your protection, credit payments are no longer accepted by mail, fax, or email.

DEADLINE

Registrations must be received by Monday, July 5, 2021. ***Late and/or on-site registrations will be accepted after this date as space allows and will be charged a \$50 processing fee.*** All attendees must check in upon arrival and are requested to wear nametags at all times during the meeting. SAMSOG makes every effort to have adequate program material available at the meeting; however, late registrants and/or on-site registrants may not have materials available at the meetings, in which case such materials can be shipped following the meeting, upon request.

CANCELLATION / REFUND POLICY

Cancellations received by SAMSOG by 5:00 pm on Monday, July 5, 2021 will receive a registration fee refund, less a \$50 administrative fee. Cancellations received after 5:00 pm on July 5, 2021 will be considered "no shows" and will not receive a registration fee refund. Program materials will be shipped after the meeting to every paid "no show" upon request. Designated substitutes may replace registrants unable to attend.

FOR ADDITIONAL FORMS OR TO REGISTER ON-LINE, VISIT ***www.SAMSOG.org***

Surveying and Mapping Society of Georgia

P.O. Box 1113
LaGrange, GA 30241

Phone: 770.947.1767 ~ Fax: 770.947.1725 ~ Email: ginger_samsog@att.net

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Call 770-947-1767 or visit www.samsog.org



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NH Call to Action ~ GPS ON BENCH MARKS ~ OUR WORLD IS CHANGING (LITERALLY) And NGS Has Requested Our Participation

NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS) is developing a **modernized** National Spatial Reference System (NSRS). Essentially, they are updating data to work with the advances in technology. This "modernization" consists of the creation of new State Plane Coordinate Systems (SPCS) for each state, new geoid models, and new datum transformation tools. These are big changes, and we need to help NGS make them as accurate and precise as possible, for us.

The horizontal and vertical datum's (X, Y & Z) of the New Hampshire State Plane Coordinate System (NHSPCS), as we know it, are changing. And while they're at it, NGS is eliminating the US Survey foot (NH's official unit of measure) in favor of the International Foot.

Not only will these changes affect survey work, they will also have an effect on NH RSA, Title I, The State and Its Government, Chapter 1-A, New Hampshire Coordinate System which defines datums, SPCS and NH's official unit of measure. This modernization will require a change in the RSA.

NGS will be creating this new world of ours, and as it stands now, they have limited data in which to work with. This will result in a less accurate vertical transformation. To make the transformation better, NGS is asking people to acquire more data by participating in the **GPS on Bench Marks** campaign. NGS will **NOT** be actively collecting data themselves, so it's up to us.

The NGS website has a wealth of information, and to ensure that everyone can utilize it, I've provided screen captures and web links to it.

Here are four short educational videos by NGS that give a very nice overview.

<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/datums/newdatums/WatchVideos.shtml>

What are Geodetic Datums



https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/corbin/class_description/NGS_Datums_vid1/

How are Geodetic Datums Established



https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/corbin/class_description/NGS_Datums_vid2a/

What's the Status of Today's Geodetic Datums



https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/corbin/class_description/NGS_Datums_video_2_b/

What's Next for Geodetic Datums



https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/corbin/class_description/NGS_Datums_video_2c/



New Datums Are Coming!

NOAA is Replacing NAD 83 and NAVD 88.

NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS) will be replacing the datums of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), including **the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88)**. NGS will provide the tools to easily transform between the new and old datums. Read the NGS Ten-Year Plan and visit the **New Datums Web page** on our site to learn more.

Benefits

The new reference frames (geometric and geopotential) will rely primarily on **Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS)**, such as the Global Positioning System (GPS), as well as on a gravimetric geoid model resulting from NGS' **Gravity for the Redefinition of the American Vertical Datum (GRAV-D)** Project.

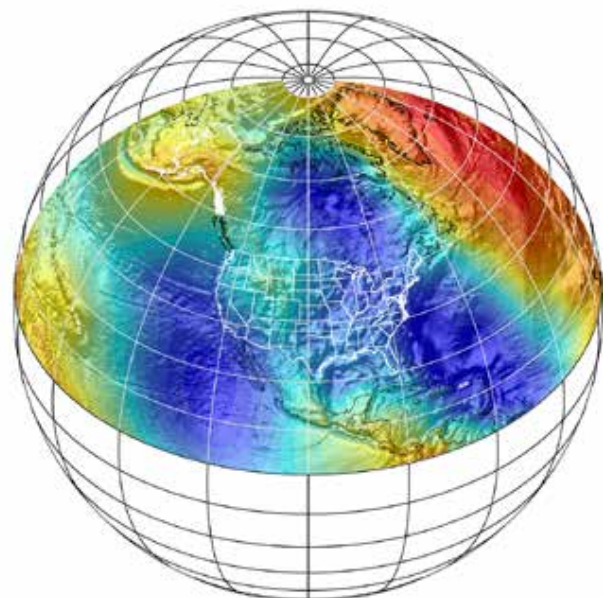
The target accuracy of differential orthometric heights (heights relative to sea level) in the geopotential reference frame will be 2 centimeters over any distance, where possible.

What You Can Expect

The magnitude of change with the new datums will vary depending on the datum you are using and your geographic location. The new geometric datum will change latitude, longitude, and ellipsoid height between 1 and 4 meters. In the conterminous United States (CONUS), the new vertical datum will change heights on average 50 centimeters, with approximately a 1-meter tilt towards the Pacific Northwest.

How You Can Prepare

- Learn if **legislation** or other formal documents referencing NAD 83 and NAVD 88 need to be changed in your state.
- **Transform existing data** to the latest NSRS datums and realizations; i.e. NAD 83 (2011), GEOID18, and NAVD 88.
- **Obtain precise ellipsoidal heights** on NAVD 88 bench marks, and visit the GPS on Bench Marks Web page to learn more.
- Require and provide **complete metadata** on all mapping contracts. See our website for more details.



The new datums will extend across CONUS and U.S. territories. The terrestrial reference frames replacing NAD 83 will be consistent with geocentric global reference frames defining latitude and longitude. The geopotential datum replacing NAVD 88 will be based on a gravimetric geoid model, enhanced by data from NGS' Gravity for the Redefinition of the American Vertical Datum (GRAV-D) Project.

NGS has requested that we, as Surveyors, participate in the GPS on Bench Mark campaign, and here's how!
<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/index.shtml>



National Geodetic Survey

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GPS on BM Links

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GPS on Bench Marks

Help improve the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) and prepare for the NSRS modernization in 2022 by participating in the GPS on Bench Marks (GPS on BM) for the Transformation Tool campaign. Your efforts will support the following objectives:

- Improve the **2022 Transformation Tool**, which will enable conversions from current vertical datums to the North American-Pacific Geopotential Datum of 2022 (NAPGD2022) and will be integrated into the NGS Coordinate Conversion and Transformation Tool (NCAT).
- Update Passive Control Status: mark recoveries and shared solutions provide NGS and other users of the NSRS with insight into the health of the passive control network and updated information for project planning.
- Automatic Reprocessing in 2022: Shared data will be automatically reprocessed and given new coordinates after the NSRS modernization occurs in 2022.

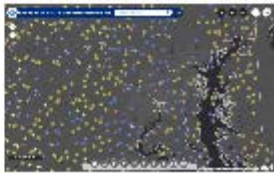
Recover, Observe, Report

Regardless of your objective, GPS on BM will always include three important steps: recover, observe, and report.

Recover: Use **GPSonBM web map** to identify priority marks in your area, or the **NGS Data Explorer** to look up the description of existing bench marks. Follow the instructions on the **Recover page** to find bench marks of interest.

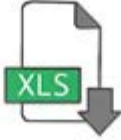
Observe: Follow instructions on the **Observe** page and record field notes, take digital photos, and collect GPS observations for the bench mark you visit.

Report: Use the online **Mark Recovery Form** to submit your recovery notes and photos and **Share the OPUS Solutions** from your **GPS observations**.

[Visit the Web Map](#)


[Visit the Dashboard](#)


[Download Prioritized Marks](#)



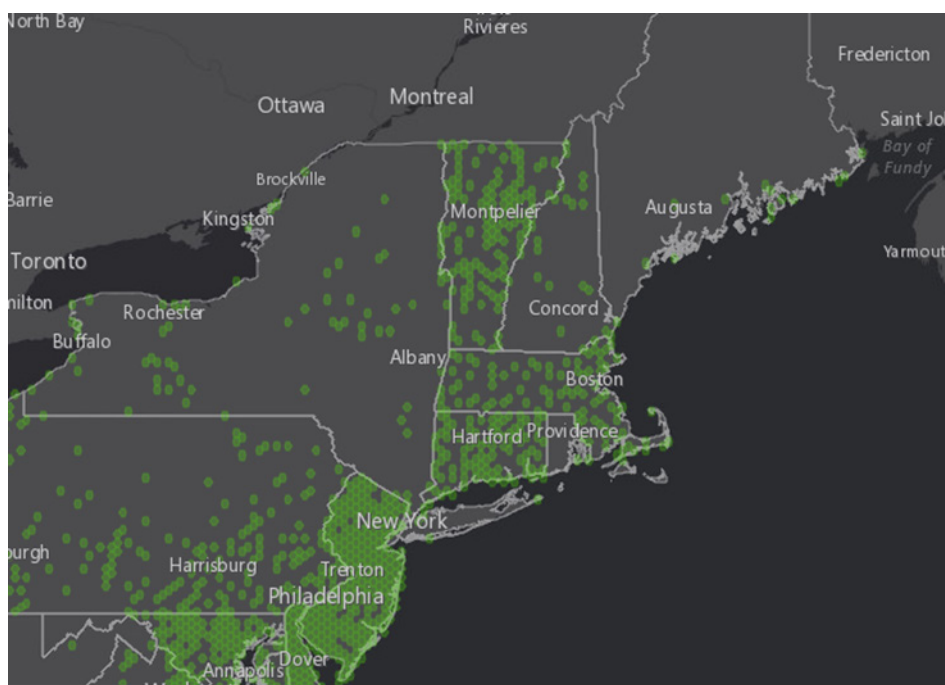
[~15 MB]



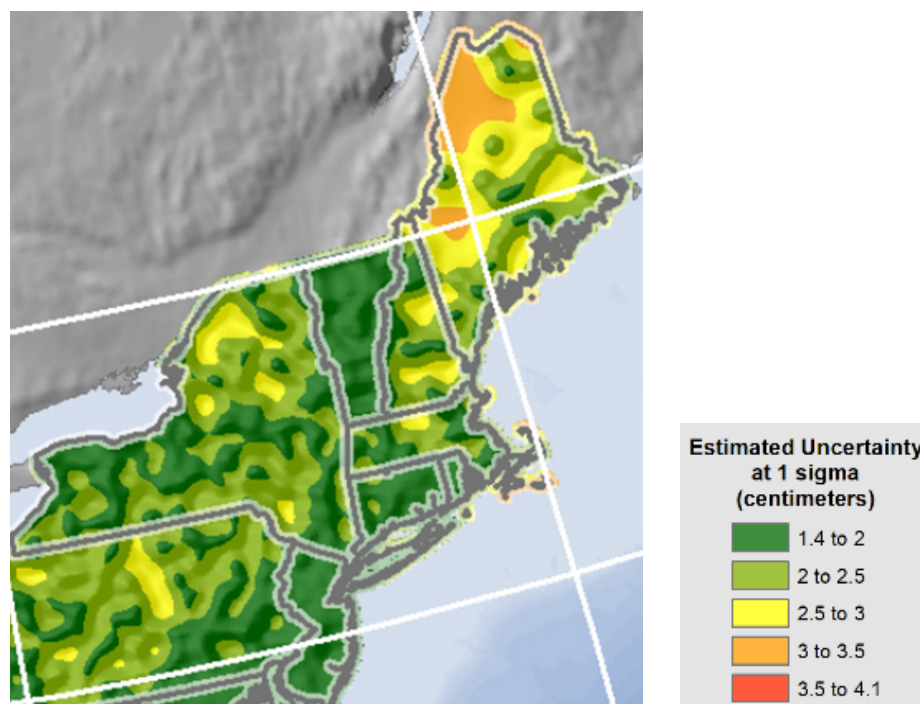
[~6 MB]

Files and Web Map Application updated: Monday, February 16, 2021

This map below shows the current limited control data NGS has to create the new transformation. Not much here in NH.



This map below shows the accuracy/uncertainty portions of NH with the current data above.



As you can see, VT and NJ have dark green areas which indicate they'll have a great transformation. NH has a weak data set in which NGS will create our transformation tool. Therefore, it is necessary for everyone to participate in the GPS on Bench Marks program to make it better.

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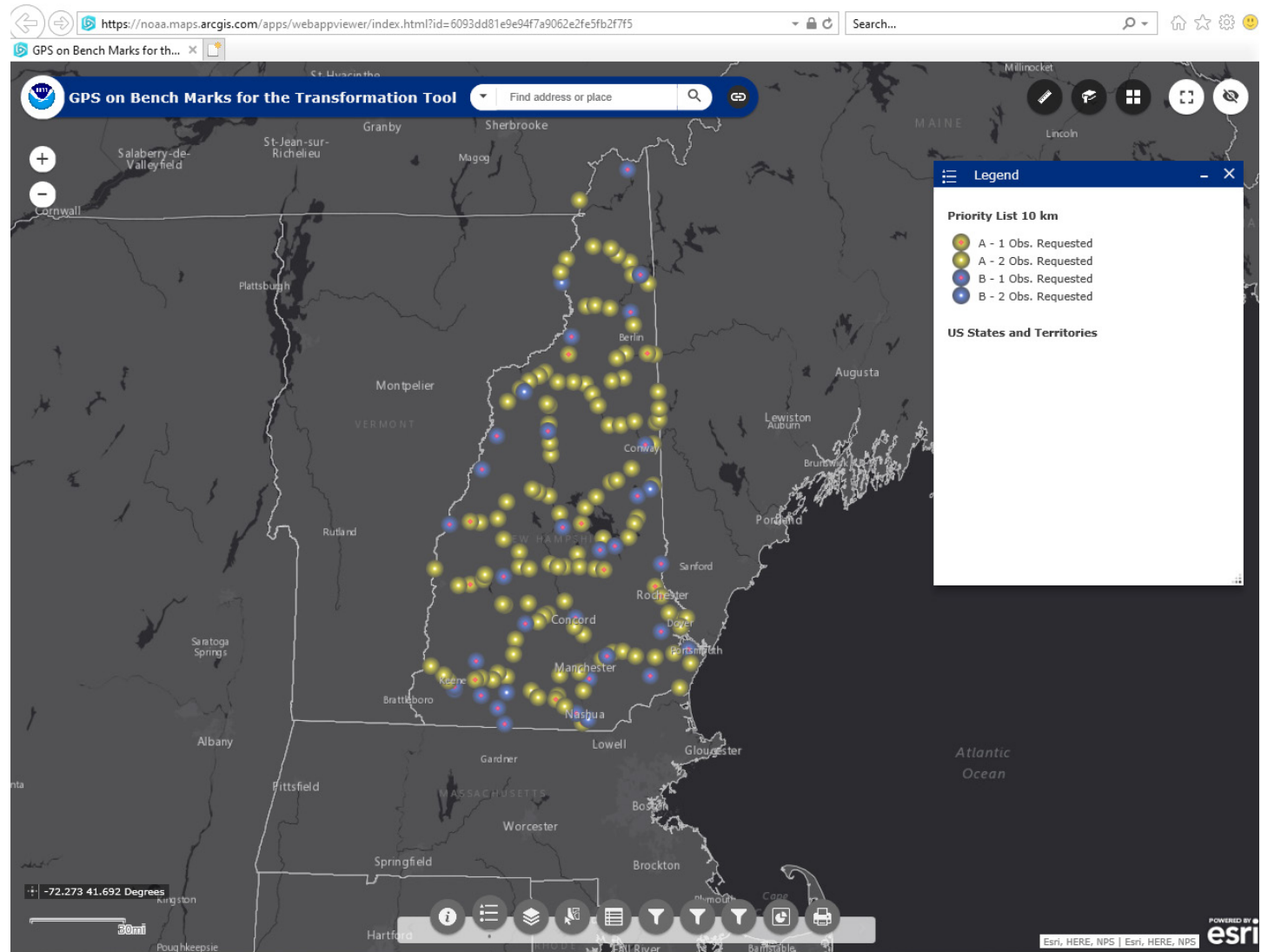
WWW.GEO-TRONICS.COM

MENTION THIS AD FOR 10% OFF

NGS has come up with a map (below) depicting the priority level and number of occupations needed. These are the suggested BM's based on a 10km octagon framework. Their intent is to have a BM within each 10km area that has 2 observations. Due to the deadline of December 2021, it is more important to prioritize those monuments that are in areas where most of our future work will be - Densely populated and developed areas, or areas with that potential. It is not critical to prioritize BM's that are in extremely remote areas that will in all likelihood remain remote and undeveloped. However, all data will be used; they are just not priorities. Some of the BM's have been observed many times, but NGS needs current data, something within 5 years. This is why some of the monuments have been chosen.

Below is the NGS map and link. The bar tab at the bottom of the map is quite useful.

<https://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6093dd81e9e94f7a9062e2fe5fb2f7f5>



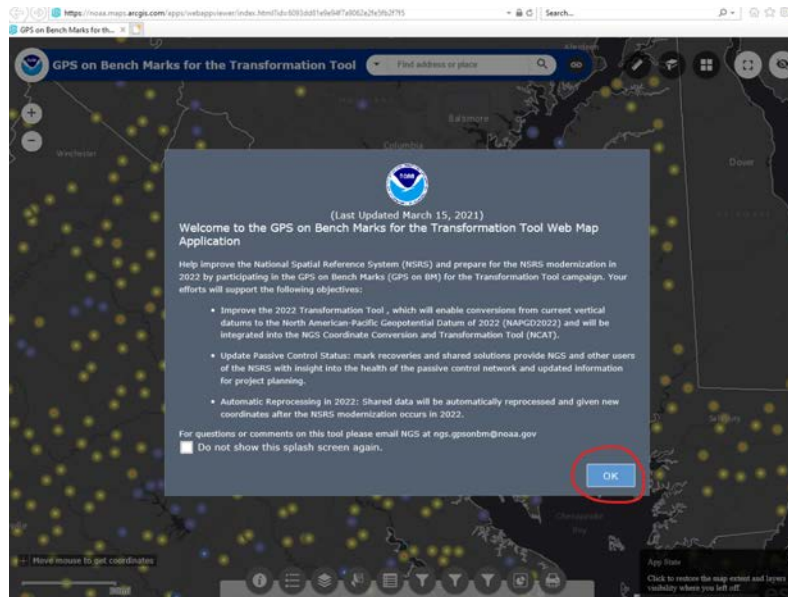
What I am hoping is that several of you will volunteer to occupy and OPUS-share some of these NGS Bench Marks that are in your area. We at NHDOT will be participating, but we are unable to do them all. Therefore, it's important for all of us to have as many of these BM's occupied for NGS by the deadline of December 2021. This NGS map is updated once the observation data is received and entered by NGS. This time delay could result in duplicated efforts. So please email me at NHDOT, and let me know which monuments you are willing to occupy so that we can maximize our efforts.

Here's a quick run-through of the NGS map below.

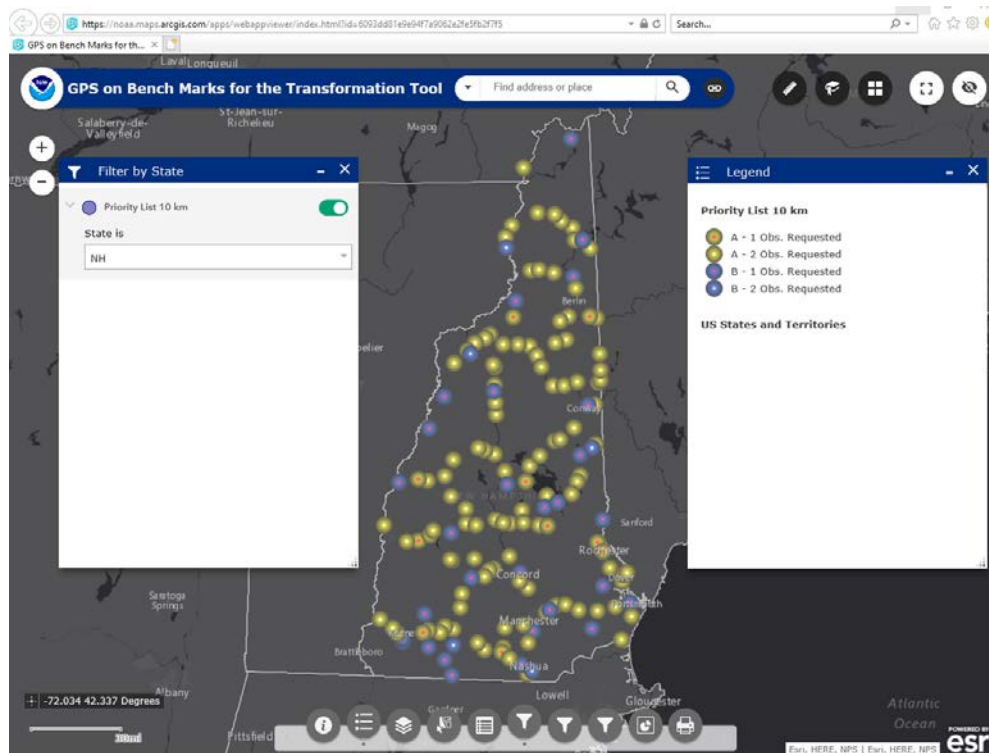
<https://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6093dd81e9e94f7a9062e2fe5fb2f7f5>

Open the site above.

You will see this.....now click **OK**.

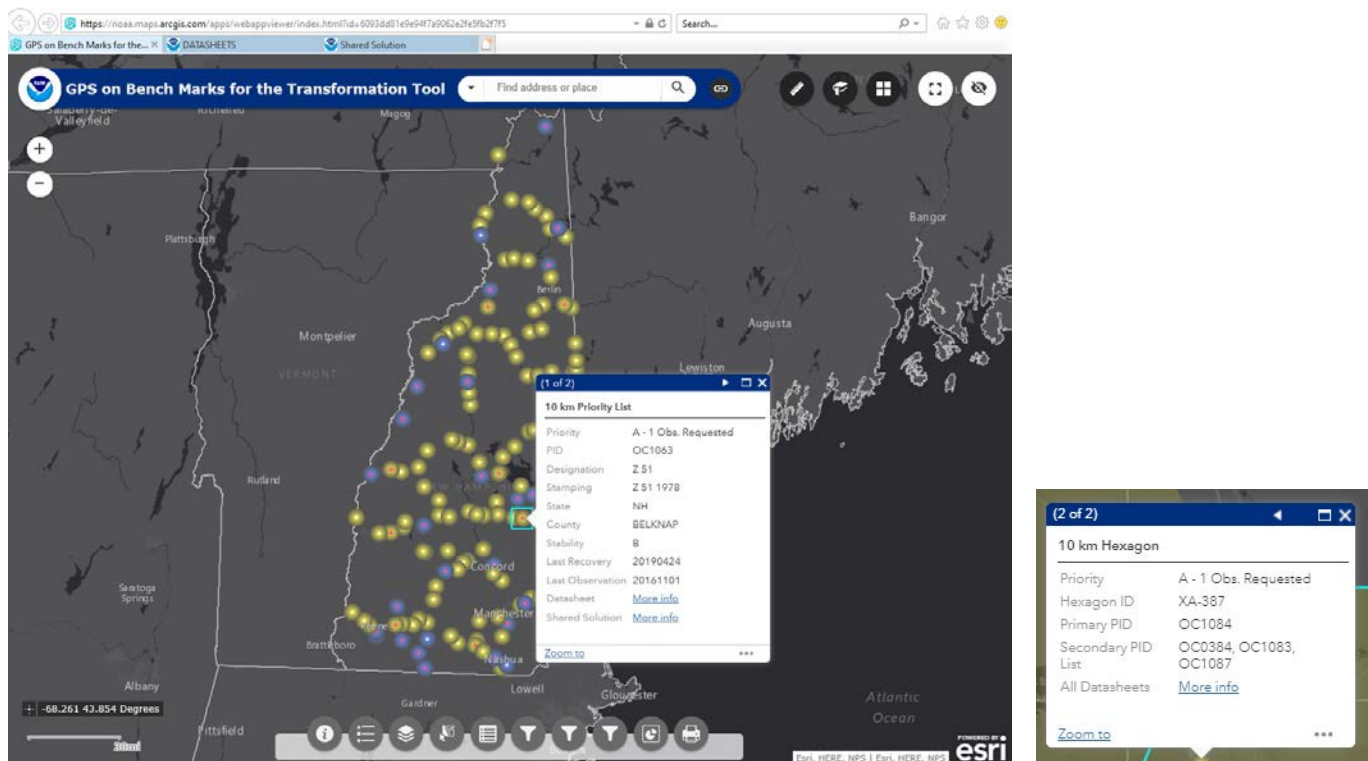


At “Find address or place”.....Type....New Hampshire

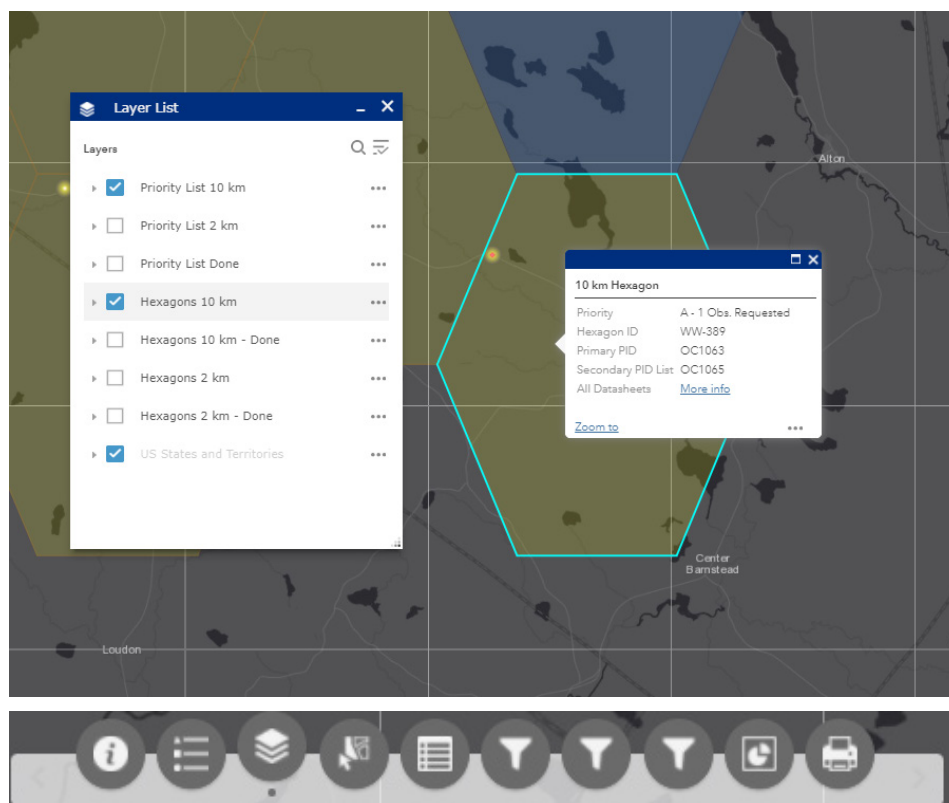


At the tool bar (bottom of the screen), click on the “Filter by State” button. It’s the 6th button shaped like a funnel. A “Filter by State” pop-up appears. Click the slide to Green, and in the “State is” box, type **NH**. To see the legend, click on the second button in the tool bar.

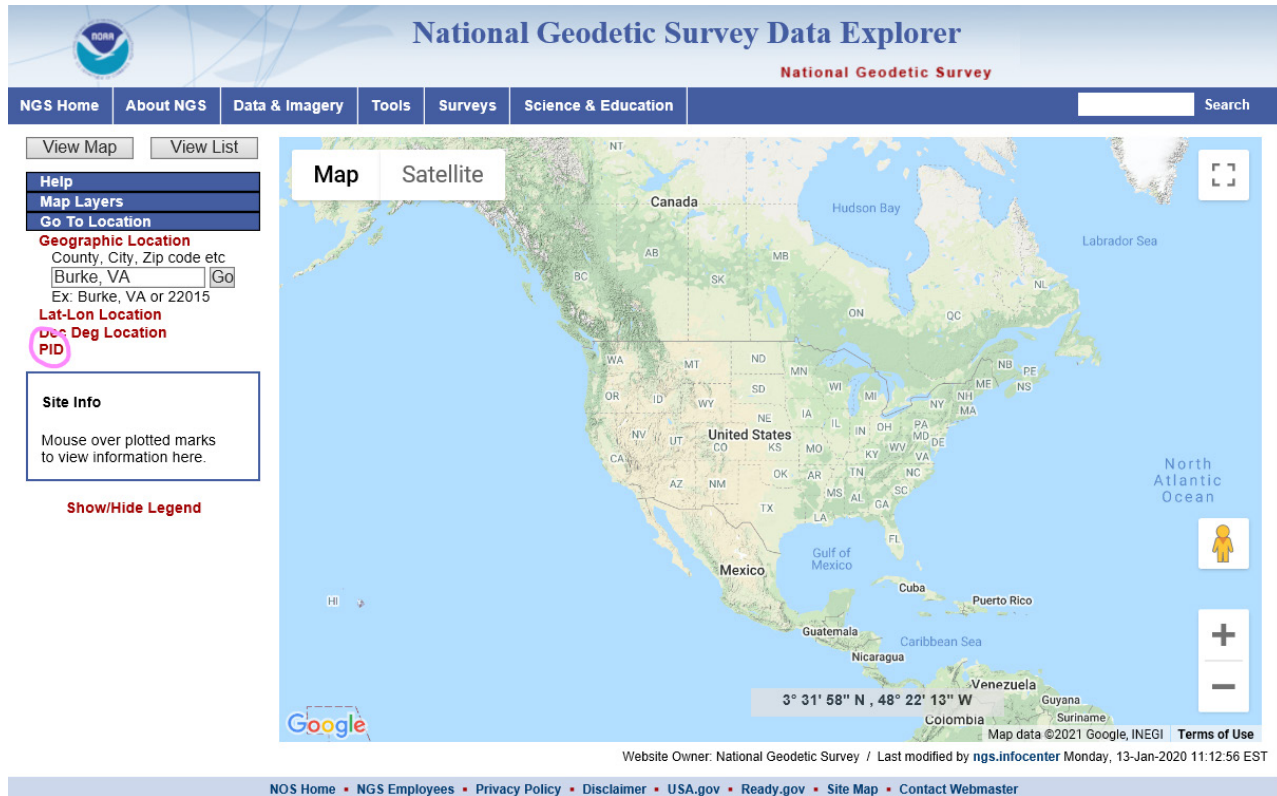
Just click on any of the dots for all the information on that priority Bench Mark.



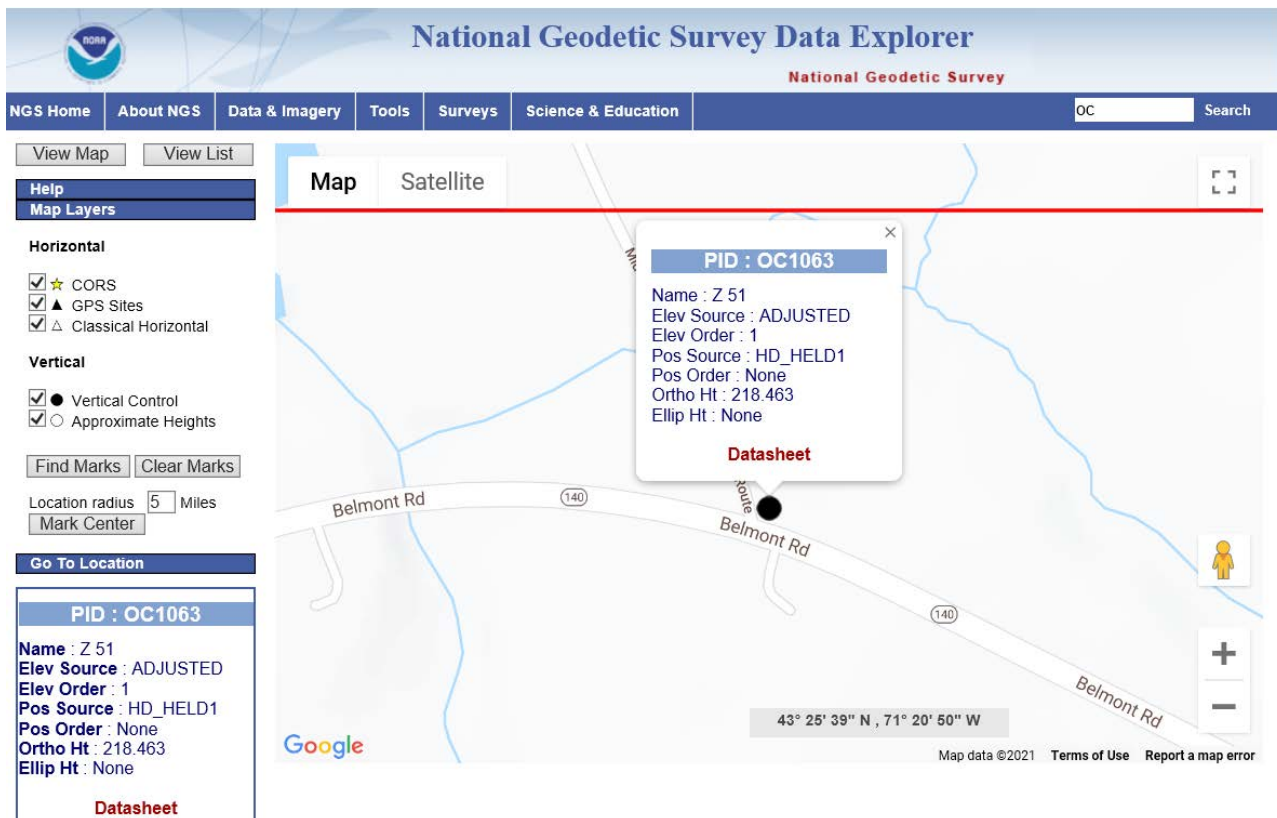
A pop-up will appear of the Priority BM and its PID, etc. If that BM is missing or is not suited for GPS, there are secondary PID's available for that 10km hexagon. Choose one of those by clicking the dot, and at the top of the pop-up, it says (1 of 2) in the blue. Arrow to (2 of 2), and most often the Secondary PIDs are listed. Your other option is to click on the "Layer List" button in the tool bar, and set up the pop-up as shown below. This allows you to see the 10km hexagons. Click anywhere in a hexagon, and a pop-up of the list of suitable PIDs will appear.



However, to zoom to that BM you have to leave the site and go to another NGS website <https://geodesy.noaa.gov/NGSDDataExplorer/> and go to “Looking for Bench Marks”. There you can enter the PID (it’s there in the left column), and it will zoom to that BM.



Click on the symbol, and a pop-up appears where you can verify PIDs. Click on “Datasheet”, and eventually said sheet pops up. Look halfway down for “Click photographs - Photos may exist for this station” for any photos.

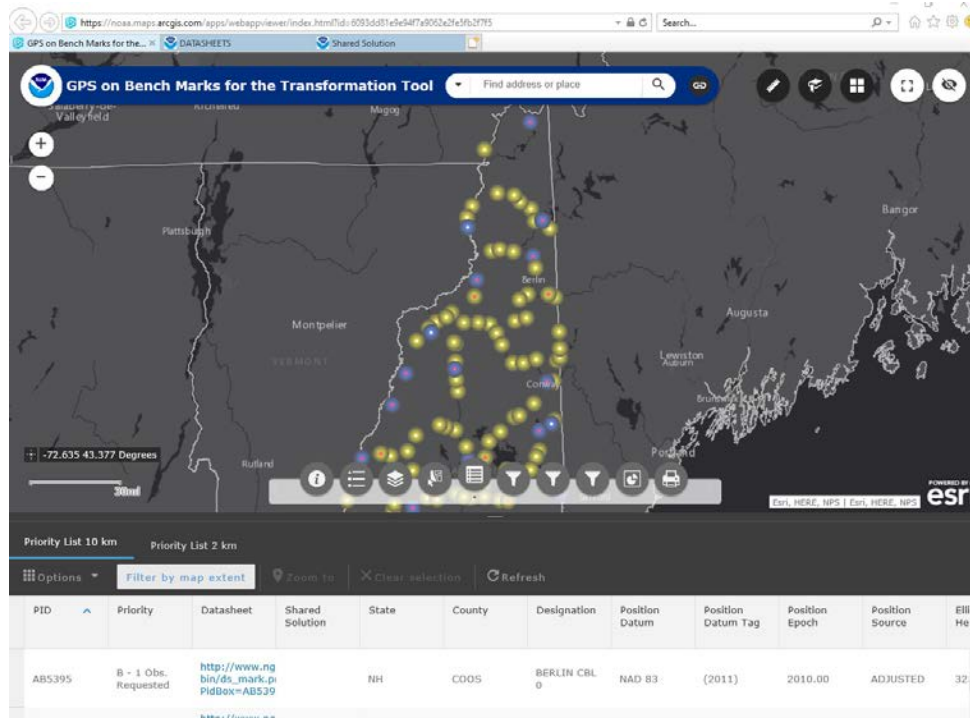


Choose your Bench Marks

I've included the "Priority List 10 km _by County" csv file in the email. This lists data for all the requested BM's. Please send me a list of the BM's that you will be responsible for, and I will keep a running list. Be sure to have the PID included in your list. The PID can be entered in NGS websites, as well as Granit. The file allows you to sort by any of the column headings. This particular one is by county.

Below shows you how to find the most current list. Once NGS is satisfied with a data set for a BM you sent in, it should be updated and removed from the list, or identified as finished.

To get a "Priority List" of the 10km monuments, click on the "Attribute Table" button, being the 5th button on the tool bar. This list can be exported under "Options", which is off to the lower left.



The Goal

The goal is to assist each other in getting as many as the NGS Bench Marks requested by NGS while keeping the duplicated efforts to a minimum. Therefore, if you would email me a list of the BM's that you want to be responsible for, I can compile a master list and let you know which one on your list has already been chosen. This way, if a monument has already been located or is scheduled to be located, we won't have overlapping and wasted efforts. That's the plan anyhow. We'll see how it all shakes out.

Thank you, all who participate!

Here is all of my contact information:

Steven M. Ferguson, LLS
 NHLA President &
 NHDOT Geodetic Survey
 Steven.M.Ferguson@dot.nh.gov
 603-545-1653 Cell
 603-271-1600 NHDOT

Also feel free to contact:

Daniel J. Martin. For those of you who don't know Dan, he is the Northeast Regional Geodetic Advisor (ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NY, NJ) for NOAA/NOS/National Geodetic Survey. Dan can be reached at dan.martin@noaa.gov or by cell at 240-676-4762.

Some links of interest:

<https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/index.shtml>
<https://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6093dd81e9e94f7a9062e2fe5fb2f7f5>
<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/ras/html/i/1-a/1-a-mrg.htm>
<https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/OPUS/view.jsp>
<https://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6093dd81e9e94f7a9062e2fe5fb2f7f5>
 Surveying Observation Requirements (<https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/observe.shtml>)
 How to Report GPS Observations with OPUS Share (<https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/report.shtml>)



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CAREER DAY AT NORTHSIDE



Pictured: Daniel Collins (Dan Collins' son), 10th grade Geometry and 11th grade Algebra II teacher at Northside High School in Columbus, Georgia.

On May 18, 2021, Kushal Acharya, Ben Stephens, and Dan Collins, Land Engineering, Inc. employees, met with students at Northside High School in Columbus, Georgia to provide an introduction into land surveying. The event was set up and organized by their teacher Daniel Collins, Dan's son.

The participants were 10th and 11th grade Geometry and Algebra II students who were provided hands-on learning with a variety of equipment including GPS, Total Station/Data Collectors, magnetic compass, 100-ft tape measure, 25-foot tape measure, and a tree tape. We displayed two of our company drones but were unable to fly due to being in a "no fly" zone.

The students were instructed on how the various equipment functioned and were given numerous examples of how land surveyors use the equipment in the performance of their jobs. One practical application involved using the formula for the circumference of a circle to calculate the diameter of a tree. The students understood that $C = (\pi)(D)$, and we demonstrated how surveyors can accurately determine the diameter of a tree by measuring the circumference. We then

explained how the tree tape is calibrated and how to use it to obtain the same answer. They liked the fact that the tree tape made determining the diameter "easier". We also had the students estimate the height of a flagpole and then demonstrated how to accurately measure the exact height. Included in the demonstrations were detailed explanations of the mathematics behind the measurements, and we also discussed the practical applications of using geometry, coordinate geometry, and trigonometry in the real world.

In closing, we spent a good amount of time explaining the career opportunities and how land surveyors work with engineers, architects, and the construction industry to design and build the existing infrastructure that students use every day.

The event was a success, and the students walked away with a better understanding of what land surveyors do, why land surveying is so important, as well as potential career opportunities.



Pictured: Dan Collins, Kushal Acharya, and Ben Stephens, Land Engineering, Inc. employees.



SAMSEF SCHOLARSHIP *DEADLINE EXTENSION!*

The Surveying and Mapping of GA Education Foundation (SAMSEF) has elected to extend our application deadline for our scholarships for the 2021-2022 academic year to June 30th, 2021.

All students enrolled in or considering enrolling in a course of study leading to a degree in land surveying are encouraged to apply for our multiple available scholarships. All of our scholarships are open to residents of Georgia, regardless of the location of the school they attend. Programs outside the state of GA are included for consideration, as long as the applicant is a resident of GA. Below is a summary of the scholarships available for the 2021-2022 academic year:

The Ben W. Fortson Scholarship is offered to students pursuing a bachelor's degree in surveying or a directly related course of study. **One (1) Ben W. Fortson scholarship is offered annually in the amount of \$3,000.**

For 2021, SAMSEF is also offering five **(5) regional scholarships** to students pursuing a degree in land surveying or a related field of study. Scholarships are generally granted to the applicant whose home address is within or closest to the regional scholarship being offered. **Each of these annual scholarships is offered at \$3,000.**

In addition to the above reference scholarships, **we also offer three (3) technical scholarships available in the amount of \$500 each, per semester**, to assist students pursuing education in land surveying but are not enrolled in a formal associate or bachelor's degree program.

APPLY NOW!

More information and the application link can be found at samsog.org under the education tab. We encourage all eligible students to apply for these scholarships before the June 30th deadline.





“The 2Point Way” - Old Easements Don’t Just Disappear

Written by Kristopher M. Kline, PLS North Carolina and President of 2Point, Inc.

Maps courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey and Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection

At first glance, these two cases seem too dissimilar to be included in the same article. One was tried in 1849—the other, only a few years ago. The first involves dedication of a public square by recorded plat, the second concerns the creation of a private road by partition and considers the seldom-discussed “common scheme doctrine.” Finally, one case was heard in the Ohio courts, while the other is found in Massachusetts records.

The Ohio Case

The dispute described in **Huber v. Gazley 18 Ohio 18 (1849)** developed in the first half-century after the formation of the state of Ohio. The central issue was the ownership of a town square shown on a 1796 map depicting a proposed town. Acting on his own behalf and for several adjoining property owners, Huber contended that the town square had been dedicated to public use as the proposed town square of Williamsburgh, Ohio. The lands involved were completely undeveloped, and the area was unpopulated at the time the map was drawn. Court records specifically recognize that the proposed town square had previously been used as a woodlot; the purchasers of adjoining parcels had routinely cut firewood on the tract designated as the town square.

William Lytle laid out the town of Williamsburgh; a plat of the proposed town was prepared showing proposed lots, streets, and alleys. Court records note that Lytle: *“in said plat, set apart, dedicated and appropriated to the public, for the use, benefit and advantage of all persons who might thereafter purchase lots in said town, a certain portion of the land within the bounds of said town plat, and near the centre thereof, containing about five acres; which said tract was then and is now known and described in said plat as the “public square.”* Numerous lots were sold by Lytle and records show that the purchase prices were augmented based on the added value generated by proximity to the public square.

In 1800, the town was designated the county seat of the newly created Clermont County. A courthouse and jail were built on the property in 1803. The situation remained stable until 1825, when the county seat was re-located by an act of the general assembly. At this point, the residents of the town took possession of the lands in question. To further confuse the issue, Lytle had recorded a second plat of the town in 1815. This more recent map changes the designation of the “public square” to “public ground.” This second map also added a citation that resembles a ‘reversion clause’ for the square—should the county seat move to a different location.

Circa 1825, a dispute arose between Lytle (and his creditors) and the county. Some political and financial maneuvering followed, resulting in a deed from William Lytle to the United States Bank, which in turn was followed by an action of ejectment instigated by the bank. The property was eventually re-sold in 1846 to Sayres Gazley, who then took possession of the public square and attempted to exclude all others based upon a presumed chain of title from William Lytle.

The final argument for Gazley, as recorded in the court opinion is certainly creative, though ill-advised: *“He insists also upon the great lapse of time, since the rights of complainant accrued, as a bar to the relief sought by the bill.”* This argument failed to convince the court because the square was used for governmental purpose for over 20 years and then was held open for common use by the town residents. It was reasonable to conclude that lands dedicated and held in trust for public use could not be conveyed casually to a private individual.

Gazley also attempted to prove title to the square based on prescription. At this time, Ohio common law was in its formative stages.

Two contemporary Ohio rulings—**City of Cincinnati v. First Presbyterian Church: 8 Ohio 298 (1838)** and **City of Cincinnati v. Evans: 5 Ohio St. 594 (1855)**—demonstrate that, while the state itself was considered to have sovereign immunity against adverse possession, that immunity did not necessarily extend to the towns incorporated within the state. However, both of these decisions refer to prescriptive claims where public land had actually been physically possessed for many years by a private entity. Neither of these rulings allowed legitimate public rights to be compromised. Later Ohio decisions support protections against prescriptive claims of lands dedicated to and accepted by the public.

The attempted application of adverse possession doctrine was no help to Gazley. While his counsel argued that the county had taken the property from the public by adverse possession, the argument was rejected because the use of the square by the county had always been consistent with the presumed rights of the public.

Since Clermont County did not yet exist when the original plat was drawn, the court concluded that there could not have been any ‘original intent’ for the public square to be the county seat. The court also saw through Lytle’s attempt to add restrictions after the fact by the recordation of the later survey and the addition of a reversion clause. They ruled that: *“If this ground was dedicated by the proprietor in 1796, to the use of the town, then it follows that no subsequent act of his can control that use, and the limitations and reservations in the plat of 1815 are of no force whatever.”*



The Massachusetts Case

Campbell v. Nickerson: 73 Mass. App. Ct. 07-P-1420 (2008) is a recent Massachusetts decision. Critical questions in this dispute involve Eli Rogers Road and a special permit granted to Carrie Nickerson to allow construction of a house that would use the road for access.

The road was created almost 300 years prior to the dispute. Although the lands involved were undeveloped at the time the easement was created, extensive development had occurred since, and at the time of the trial the surrounding lands were heavily developed. It was agreed that the easement was created either by grant, or under the “Common Scheme Doctrine.” The resulting way (Eli Rogers Road) was intended for use by a specific group of individuals—all landowners within the original partition of the parent tract.

The parent deed that conveyed the lands in question to the several proprietors was recorded on July 20, 1711; the court refers to this document as the “Sipson Deed.” In July of 1713/1714*, the proprietors recorded an action dividing the land among themselves and included the following language in the recorded instrument: *“...that each and every of said proprietors of said lands and their heirs and assigns shall forever have and enjoy free liberty of carting, driving and passing over any of said lots both for egress and regress.”*

In the lower court, attorneys for Campbell argued that this portion of the action was void due to the effect of the doctrine of merger on attempts by individuals to create an easement over their own land for their own personal use. Rejecting this argument, the lower court decision observed that: *“the proprietors intended the rights of passing over the lots to apply to future divisions of the land, and that those rights were established in a manner comparable to the later ‘common scheme’ doctrine. He concluded that the ‘votes [of the proprietors] amounted to a grant of easement to all those owning land located within the Sipson [deed], including land of both plaintiffs and defendants.”* (An excellent discussion of the common scheme doctrine appears in “Easements Relating to Land Surveying and Title Examination” by Donald A. Wilson.

On appeal, the plaintiffs made the unfounded claim that: *“[n]o easement created solely by an unrecorded proprietors’ vote in the early 18th century is valid against a party who acquired the servient estate in the 20th century without actual knowledge of that vote.”* This argument was doomed to failure. There is no credible precedent in any U.S. jurisdiction that would justify extinguishing a public way (intended to be perpetual) because it had “worn out” after a few centuries. The Massachusetts court recognizes the legitimacy of the method by which the easement was created.

It was equally irrelevant that the plaintiff was unaware of the original vote creating the easement, since the parties had both



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constructive and actual notice of the existence of Eli Rogers Road.

Campbell v. Nickerson highlights the legitimacy of the easement: *“The plaintiffs’ assertion that the easement is not valid because it was not recorded is entirely without relevant legal support. It ignores the long and unchallenged history of conveyances made by proprietors.”* The final—and most insidious—argument by the plaintiffs was that modern day purchasers: *“...can ill afford to bear the risk of ancient unrecorded easements by grant,” and further assert that recognizing such easements would disrupt title examinations. They add that the decision of the Land Court “puts into question between 50 to 100 other parcels of land, covering at least 1,000 acres of land on Cape Cod.”* This is an obvious attempt to play on the fears of possible future litigation between other property owners in the area. The pointed rejection of this theory by the court noted that there was no apparent problem, and that current owners were not being subjected to inappropriate risk. The right to use Eli Rogers Road by the defendants was upheld.



The Comparison

One similarity between these cases is that both involve attempts after the fact to eliminate a legitimate servitude. Judges nationwide have criticized lower-court rulings (or acts of legislature) that strip property owners of legitimate rights that had already vested under previously existing common law or statutory systems.

Considering land titles and the possible adverse effect of more recent statutes that act retroactively on existing rights, the Supreme Court of Maine stated: *“It cannot by a mere act of the legislature be taken from one man, and vested in another directly; nor can it, by the retrospective operation of laws be indirectly transferred from one to another...”* As **Proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase v. Laboree: 2 Me. 275 (1823)** makes clear, any similar attempt may be considered a violation of the Taking Clause.

Another common thread in both decisions is that passage of time alone is insufficient to cause most easements or servitudes to expire or otherwise mysteriously vanish. In situations analogous to those described above, land use professionals should remember the old maxim *“Once a road, always a road.”* While several legitimate legal mechanisms exist whereby easements may be extinguished, the mere lapse of time (unsupported by other significant acts by relevant parties) generally is insufficient to extinguish an easement. Surveyors and land use professionals sometimes argue that the duration specified in their Marketable Title Act (if any) defines the limits of research required for possible easements. However, the long list of exceptions associated with these acts often provide additional protections for easements of record. This may be true even where the current deed makes no mention of the servitude, provided that actual, constructive, or inquiry notice of the easement is proved. Protections based on the dedication to public use also may serve as a shield against the casual destruction of a servitude.

The most important conclusion to be drawn from these two illustrations is that neither the surveyor, the attorney, nor the general public can afford the luxury of assuming that ancient, vested property interests are of no consequence in the modern world.

* *“The judge noted that the adoption of a new calendar, changing the start of a new year from March to January, often resulted in the notation of 1713/1714 on documents executed in the interim period. In this case, January 25 was only a few months after November 1713.”*

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In Memoriam...

Jason A. Waldemer, Georgia PLS 3206

Jason A. Waldemer, Georgia PLS 3206, 43, of New York, New York, passed away on Thursday, April 22, 2021. He was a Senior Survey Project Manager for Langan.

A Memorial Service was held Saturday, May 1, 2021 at Merritt Funeral Home, Spring Hill Chapel.



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